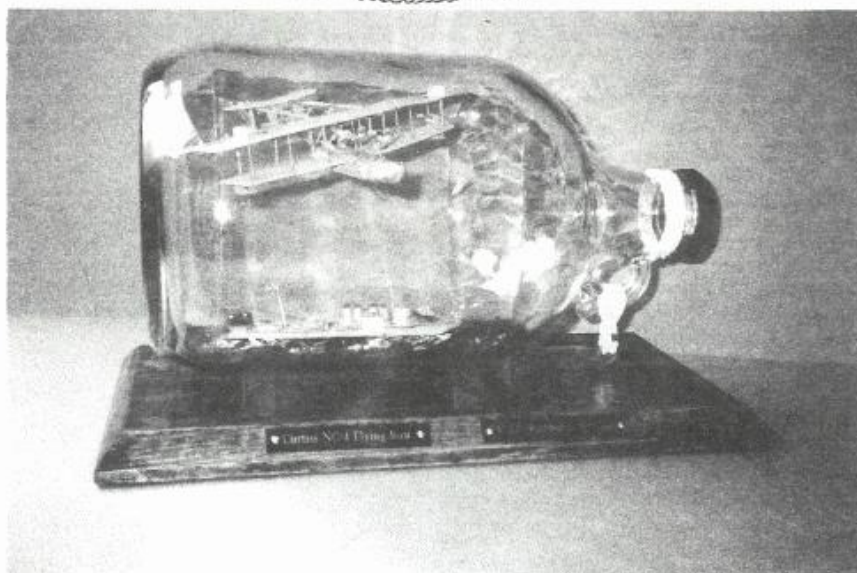




2004-2



William Weiser of Florence, Oregon built the Curtiss NC-4 flying boat flying over the old 4 stacker "rathburne" DD-113, which was completed 3/12/03. He states " I don't know if the NC-4 and the Rathbourne ever crossed paths or not , but they were both built in 1918 and worked out of the east coast, so who knows? Anyhow I thought they looked good together".  
You are right Bill , very well done.

**JOURNAL OF THE SHIPS-IN-BOTTLES ASSOCIATION OF  
AMERICA INC.**

# The Bottle Shipwright

**THE BOTTLE SHIPWRIGHT** is the journal of the Ships-in-Bottles Association of America. Production and mailing are handled by unpaid volunteer members of the association. The journal is published quarterly and is dedicated to the promotion of the traditional nautical art of building ships in bottles.

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**ARTICLES & PHOTOGRAPHS** for publication in THE BOTTLE SHIPWRIGHT should be sent to the editor at 5075 FREEPORT DRIVE, SPRING HILL, FLORIDA 34606 U.S.A. Material which should be returned to the sender should be clearly indicated. Every effort will be made to safeguard such material, but the association cannot be held responsible for loss or damage. The Editor may be required to modify articles or submissions within the context of the original to fit the format and page length of the publication. **WRITTEN AND SIGNED PERMISSION MUST ACCOMPANY ANY MATERIALS SUBMITTED.** Articles taken from another publication will not be used without express written permission, from that publication. A copy of the permission slip to be used appears in each issue of THE BOTTLE SHIPWRIGHT. Anyone submitting materials for publication in The Bottle Shipwright, may make as many photo copies as needed, or obtain additional copies, by sending a S.A.S.E. to the Editor at the address above

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# The Bottle Shipwright

Volume 22.

Number 2.

ON THE COVER- A Curtiss NC-4 &  
DD-113 by William Weiser

BACK COVER-3 works by Ross Ewings of  
NSW Australia.

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E-mail addresses inside back cover.	



THAT IS ALL!

## ATTENTION ON DECK! THIS IS THE CAPTAIN!!

Preparations for the "2004 International Ship-in Bottle, A Sailors Craft" exhibit at the San Diego Maritime Museum is well under way, under the guidance of Mr. Bob Crawford, Collections Manager of the Museum and our Don Hubbard are preparing 200 models for display.

Thank each of you who contributed a model (s) to the success of this outstanding adventure in educating the public about the folk art which we all are attempting to preserve. For each contributor the Museum will send a CD of photos of every ship in the exhibition. Vic Crosby's and Don Hubbards collections are part of the exhibit.

A member of our church who belonged to the association, Elliot Johnson, just passed away. His wife offered me his collection of a few Bottle Shipwrights. In the next issue we will have the dates of the issues and anyone wanting some can contact me and I will mail them to you.

## HIT THE BOTTLE

*Jack*

A couple was dressed and ready to go out for the evening. They turned on a night light, covered their pet parakeet, and put the cat in the backyard. They phoned for a cab, and when it arrived they opened the front door to leave the house. The cat they had put out in the yard scooted back into the house. They didn't want the cat in the house because it would try to eat the bird. The wife goes out to the cab while the husband goes inside to get the cat. The cat runs upstairs, the husband in hot pursuit. The wife doesn't want the cabby to know the house will be empty while they are out, so she explains that her husband will be out shortly. "He's just saying good-bye to my mother." A few minutes later the husband gets in the cab. "Stupid bitch was hiding under the bed. I had to poke her with a coat hanger to get her to come out! Then I had to wrap her in a blanket to stop her from scratching me, but it worked. I hauled her fat ass downstairs and threw her out into the backyard!" The cabby hit a parked car....

Send Material for the Editor to----  
5075 Freeport Drive, Spring Hill, FL., 34606.  
E-Mail-btlshprt @ inet.com.

*Ray Handwerker*

Well, I must say that I was stunned when I received Jack's letter with the San Diego Museum totals. WOW-more than 200 SIB's on display , including one of mine. Great Response from all of you. And again thanks to all of you who sent in your input for this journal. In the last issue on page 11 there was a photo of the U.S.S. Maine by an unknown Builder. The Unknown builder turns out to be Bill Weiser of Florence, Oregon , who sent in some photos that are in this issue. He completed the "Maine" 9/23/99 his last effort of the past century. Thanks for clearing that up Bill.

OK , everybody no more lollygagging.

Now, Lets refill those bottles.



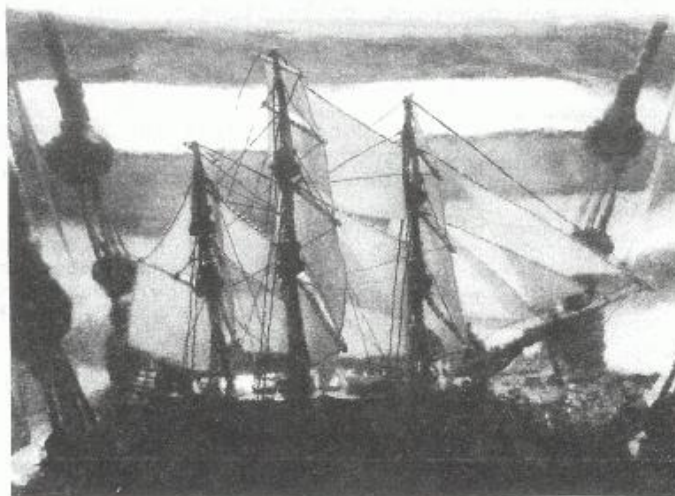
#### WELCOME ABOARD NEW MEMBERS.

Wayne McDermott, 22 Cooper Ave. Wallingford, Connecticut. 06492.  
Donald Sutherland, 650 Temple Ave. Long Beach, California. 90814.  
Craig S. Swirbliss, 19 Tassle Dr. Gales Ferry, Connecticut. 06325.

#### ADDRESS CHANGES.

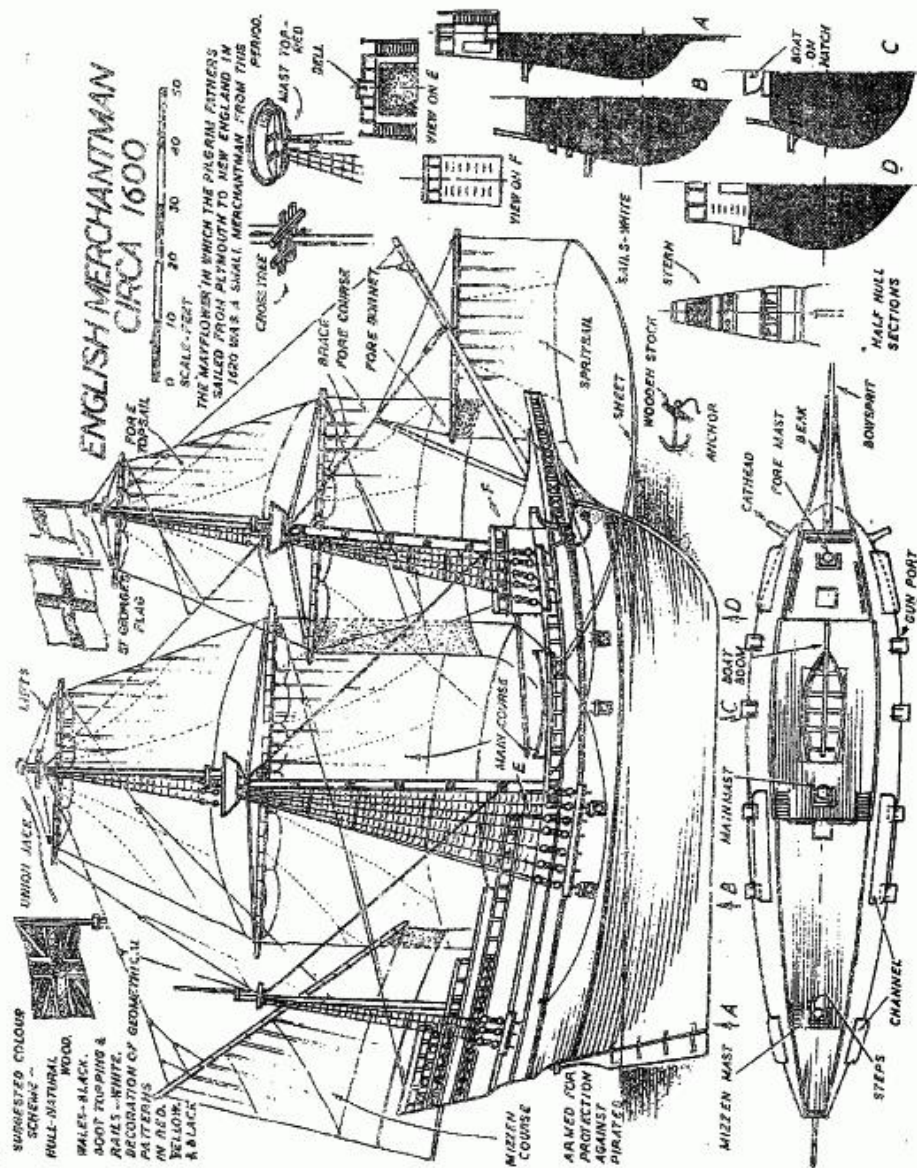
Alan Barraclough, 50 Bayview West, Selbyville, Delaware, 19975.  
Brian Frantz, 174 Coral Dr. Fort Walton Beach, Florida, 32548.  
Alan Moltz, 21 DaCosta Dr. Newington, Connecticut, 06111  
Bob Paroz, P.O.Box 213, Brookfield, Ohio. 44403.

If I missed anyone, my apologies, and drop me a line for a correction in the next issue.



Above , Dave Conrad of Braintree Mass. His version of the Sloop "Wasp" in a flat 375 ml. Whisky bottle. Nice work Dave and thanks for the Article.. Dave I would have no clue as to do what with a disk.I have enough trouble getting on to get my e-mail. I'am a computer fizz.



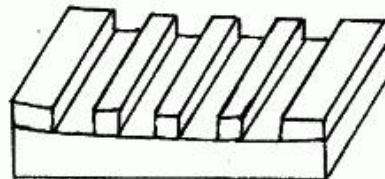
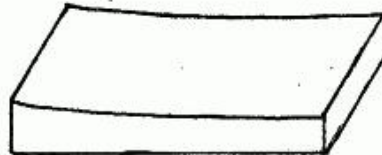


## SMALL BOATS

Here's a simple and effective method of making small boats, it's particularly handy if you have several of the same pattern boat to make, as with whale boats, for the method lends itself readily to producing duplicates. Though paper, plastic, or any number of woods could probably be employed, I use white pine, for no better reason than it's what I generally use for hulls and such. I find it serves well.

Begin with a decent piece of wood. A scrap of quarter-sawn white pine would be my choice, perhaps a six inch scrap of 1 X 4. With a sharp low-angle block plane, pare off two paper thin shavings from the edge of the stock. Each shaving will likely have a smooth side and a rougher dog-toothed side. Apply carpenter's wood glue to the dog-toothed surfaces of both shavings, laminate, and sandwich them between a couple of wood scraps using c-clamps. It is helpful to use a bit of plastic wrap to prevent the laminated shavings from adhering to the wood in which they are clamped.

While the glue gets a good grab, prepare a block of wood as illustrated. It should be about as long as the boat you intend, perhaps twice as deep, and of the approximate beam of the boat, unless you plan to make several to the same pattern. In that case increase the width of the scrap, as you will be cutting several blanks from it. Carve or sand the top surface of the block to the sheer proper for the boat you intend.



Now consider the number of thwarts required for the boat, and their width. The thickness of all stock for the thwarts should be of the same thickness, as thick as the narrowest thwart is wide. Make these pieces as long as the block's width, and glue them onto the top surface of the block, across its grain.

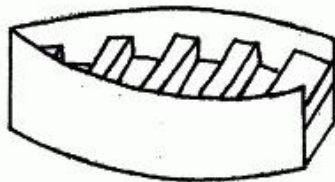
Rough out the block to match the

curve of the boat's sides as if you were a gull looking down upon the gunnels from directly above. Keep the sides parallel and sand into smooth clean curves, being careful not to break out any of the boat's thwarts.



By now your laminated plane shavings will have set, but should still be damp from the glue and quite flexible. Apply glue to the sides of the block, making sure to get some glue onto the ends of the thwarts, and bend the prepared shaving onto the block, starting at the bow. Cutting a "V" groove across the





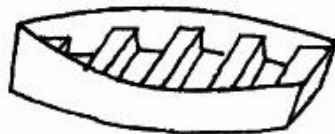
the stern of the boat cleanly, and apply the transom.

With everything glued up and set, begin refining the lines of the boat. I generally start by trimming the transom and slicing off any laminate that extends

below the bottom of the block. Stick a knife point into the bottom to make a convenient handle, and refine the gunnels using a razor blade and sandpaper. After that's done, the



grain on the inboard face of the shaving where it must make a sharp bend at the boat's bow guarantees a clean bend and good crisp line. For further insurance, a piece of masking tape can be used to cover the bend and prevent splintering, though with pine this doesn't appear to be necessary. Clamp the piece and allow it to set firmly. Prepare a rough blank from a scrap of the laminated plane shaving, shear



bottom of the block may be sheared off, making sure to leave enough stock in the boat's bottom for any final shaping.

Careful work with a razor blade and fine sandpaper will complete the final shaping of the boat, at which point a stem, keel, rudder, and such

may be glued on as desired.

Though the process seems a bit complicated as described, it is quite simple in practice, far easier in my opinion than forming boats from folded card stock or shim brass and then trying to add the thwarts. If the method has one

drawback, it is that making boats this way is so simple and straightforward that it is difficult to stop with the boats required for a particular model, and one risks winding up with a flotilla of small boats of all shapes, sizes, and types, while the model in progress sits gathering dust.



An old lady was sitting on a park bench sobbing her eyes out, so I asked her what was wrong.

"I have a 22-year-old husband at home," she said. "He makes love to me every morning and then gets up and makes me pancakes, sausage, fresh fruit and freshly ground coffee."

"Well, then why are you crying?"

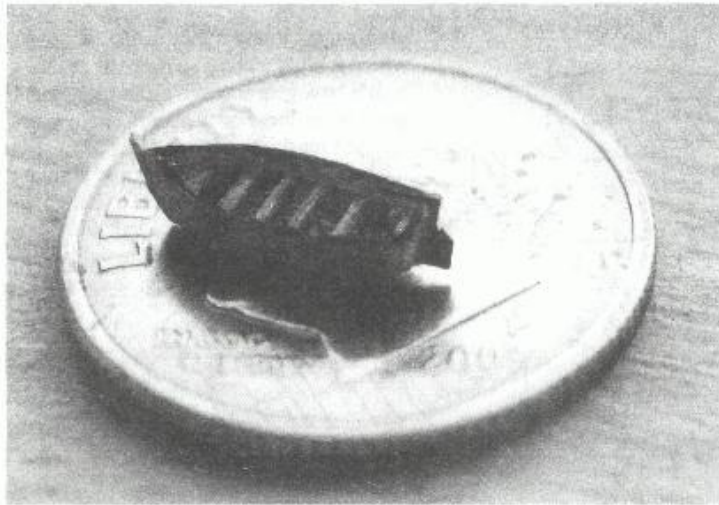
"He makes me homemade soup for lunch and my favorite brownies and then makes love to me for half the afternoon," she said.

"But why are you crying?"

"For dinner he makes me a gourmet meal with wine and my favorite dessert and then makes love to me until 2 a.m.," she said.

"Well, why in the world would you be crying?" I pleaded.

"I can't remember where I live!" she sobbed.



Above , a photo of one of the small boats built by Dave Conrad, with a dime as a comparison for size.

Dave Conrad.

### HOW MUCH IS A GALLON

Just a little humor to help ease the pain of your next trip to the gas pumps. Knowing this makes one think and puts things in perspective:

Last month while I was at the gas pump filling up my car at the local Hess gas station (which, I might add, doesn't purchase any of its petroleum from the Middle East) I was wondering just how high the gas prices would go. At that time the price for regular unleaded was \$1.7g. Every week I turned around, the prices just kept going up with no ceiling in sight. It used to be having a small car was really cost saving. I'd give the kiosk attendant a \$20.00 bill, fill it up and usually get between \$6.00 and \$7.00 change. Of course the tank wasn't bone dry but it was down there. Now, I'm lucky if I get back any change. Well, at least I'm not spending my entire "mini" on gas for one of those big 4x4's. Oh, the cost of being trendy!

After leaving the gas pump I drove over to my local food store, which is just across the street from the Hess station, for a few items.

Well, there I was walking down the aisles going over my wife's list when I started thinking about the price of gas again. I started to check out some of the prices of items being sold and the amount of the contents per item. What I found was that the price of gas really wasn't so bad after all...

#### **You think a Gallon of Gas is Expensive?**

Diet Snapple 16 oz \$1.29 - \$10.32 per gallon  
Lipton Ice Tea 16 oz \$1.19 - \$9.52 per gallon  
Gatorade 20 oz \$1.59 - \$10.17 per gallon  
Ocean Spray 16 oz \$1.25 - \$10.00 per gallon  
Brake Fluid 12 oz \$3.15 - \$33.60 per gallon  
Vick's Nyquil 6 oz \$8.35 - \$178.13 per gallon  
Pepto Bismol 4 oz \$3.85 - \$123.20 per gallon  
Whiteout 7 oz \$1.39 - \$25.42 per gallon  
Scope 1.5 oz \$0.99 - \$84.48 per gallon

...and this is the REAL KICKER

Evian water 9 oz for \$1.49 - \$21.19 per gallon  
\$21.19 FOR WATER!

and the buyers don't even know the source.

So, the next time you're at the pump be glad your car doesn't run on WATER, Scope, or whiteout, or God forbid, PEPTO BISMOL or NYQUIL

Why are we asked to "put your two cents in," but get only a "penny for your thoughts"? Where's the extra penny going?

6 .

Walking isn't a lost art; you have to get to the car somehow!



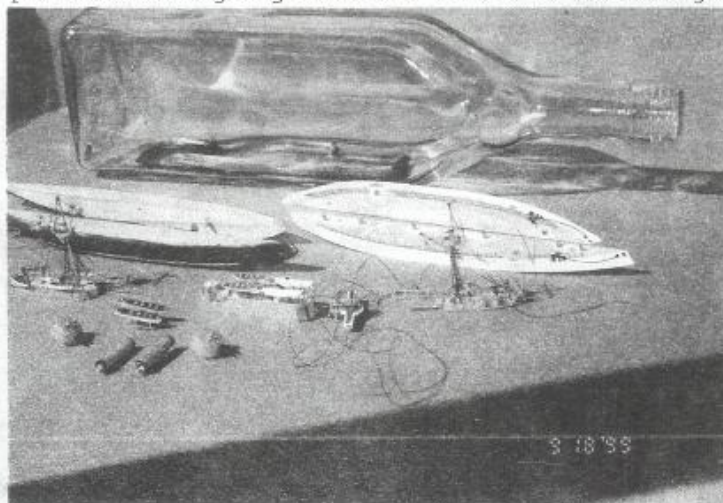


## Letters from the members

In this issue we welcome aboard three new members. Wayne McDermott of Wallingford, Connecticut, has built between 10 to 15 SIB's from scratch and has been using the web site for help in building sails. Donald Sutherland of Long Beach, California claims no experience building SIB's but "Used to manage Paul Treller's Historical Models and has five years in making movie models, and is currently lead modeler in a place that produces concept cars. Craig S. Swirbliss of Gales Ferry, Connecticut, is an active duty Coast Guard Commander with a deep interest in Coast Guard history. He has finished his first SIB, the USS Constitution and says his next one will be the USRC Massachusetts, regarded as the Coast Guards first cutter. (Craig, please send in a photo of that one when you finish it.) Wayne and Donald, I hope you will also send in some photos of your works.

Welcome Aboard, we hope you will enjoy this association and help to spread the desire to build ships-in-bottles to others to help keep our art alive. And remember that this is your journal. It is about you, what you do and how you do it. Your Hints, tips, methods or materials, are important and we hope you will share them with us. If you need help with a building or material problem, let us know and we will try to help.

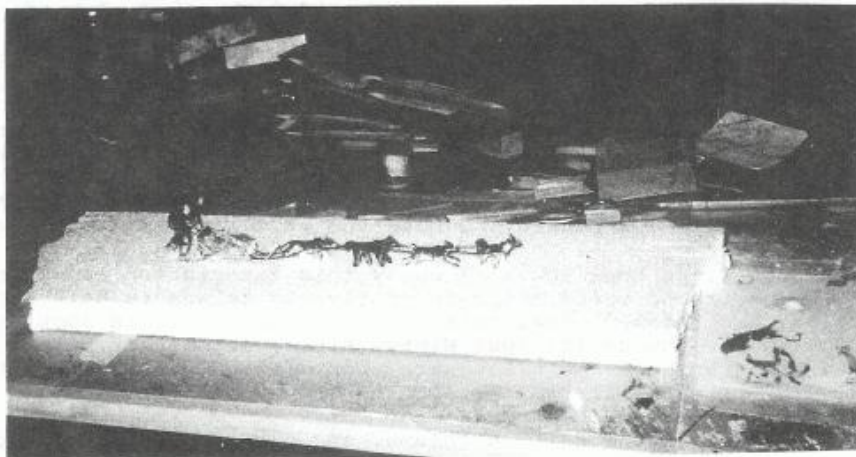
As I mentioned in the Editors column, the picture on page 11, of the last issue of the Bottle Shipwright, was the USS Maine built by William Weiser of Florence, Oregon. Below is a photo of the Maine in parts and pieces before going into the bottle in the background.



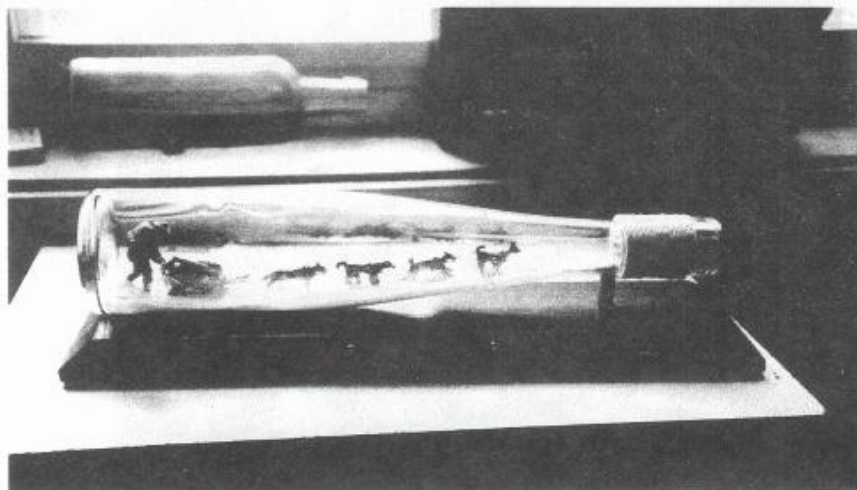
You heard about the parrot that was raised in a tough neighborhood -- he wouldn't talk without an attorney!



Below a photo of Bill's , "Dog Sled Trail of 98" before going into the bottle. Nice work area Bill. I'am only allowed space in a closet.



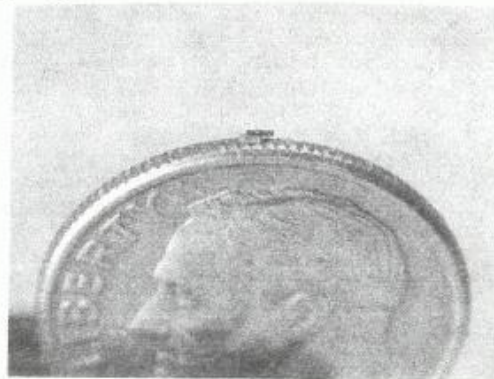
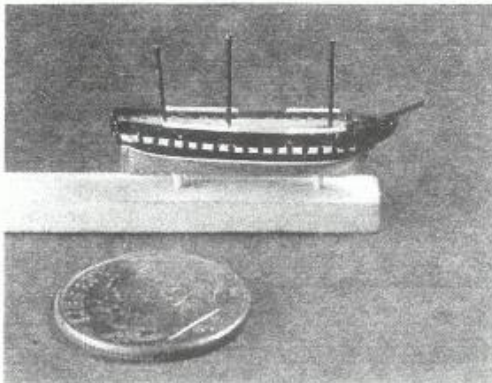
Below is the finished SIB. ( no not a ship-in- bottle, a SLED-in- bottle) I don't know Bill I don't think the dogs look like Water Buffalo's. Hope your friend enjoyed it. I'm saving the Olympia for the next issue. Thanks for sending them in.



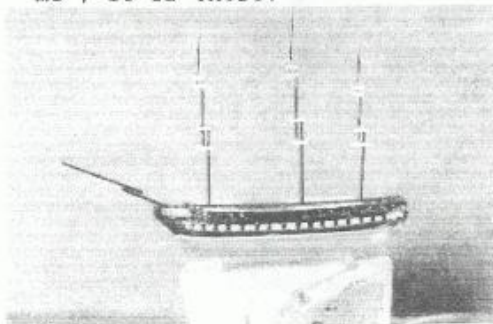
8 .

There are three things I always forget - names, faces, and the third thing I can't remember!





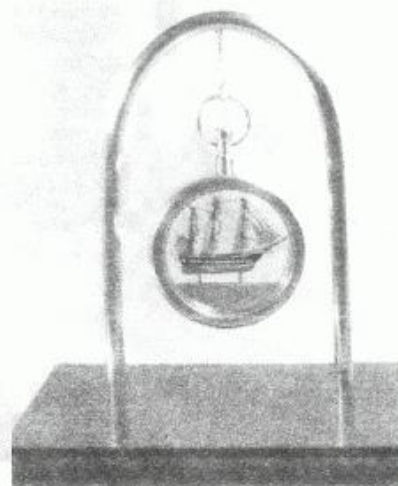
Above Left, a watch case model of the USS Constitution. The watch case is made of brass and we believe the scale is 1:2400. Above right, you may not be able to see the cannon on the edge of the dime, but trust me, it is there.

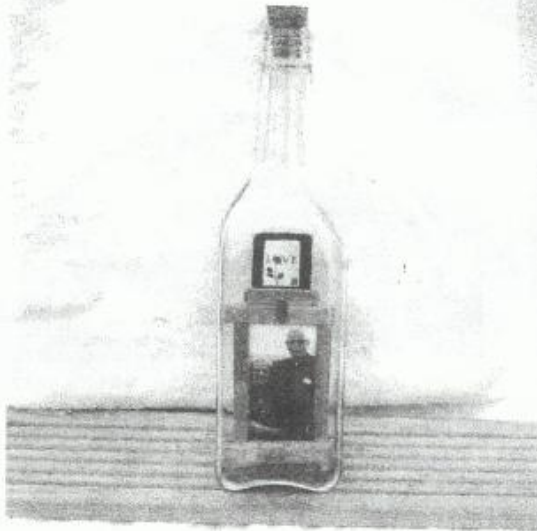


The two photos below left are the USS Constitution with masts installed and the bottom one has the rigging.

Below right is the finished watch case with the USS Constitution in position.

Oh!!!! you want to know who built it. John Fox III and it is being entered in The model Guild competition.



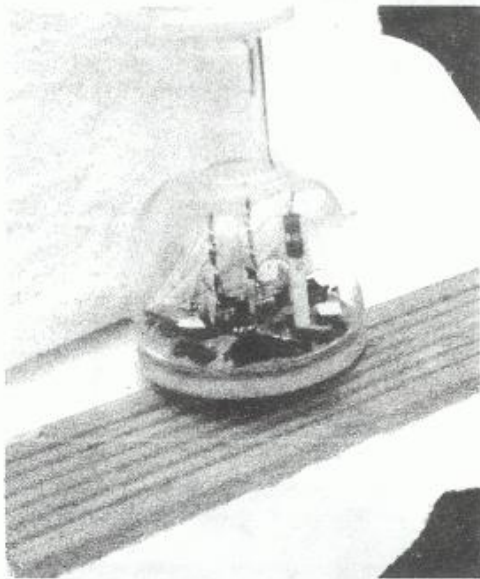
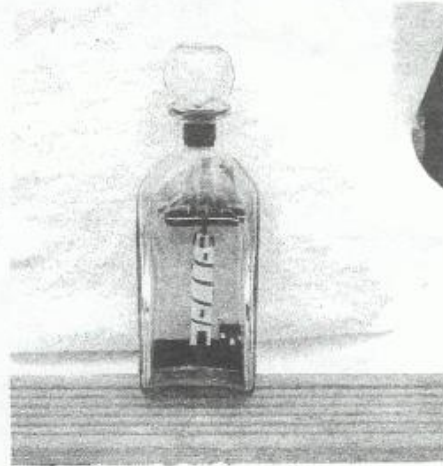


Left. Alex Cuthbert and his better half in a bottle.

Below left, "full sail onto the rocks"

Below right, "What a Storm."

Alex is a member from Syracuse New York and is legally blind but has not let it stop him from enjoying his hobby.



10.

Three elderly ladies smuggle a bottle of Jack Daniels into the ball park for their first game of spring training. The game is real exciting and they are enjoying themselves immensely while mixing the Jack Daniels with soft drinks. Soon they realize that the bottle is almost gone and the game has a lot of innings to go. Based on the given information, what inning is it and how many players are on base?

Answer: It's the bottom of the fifth and the bags are loaded.



#### TILTING AT WINDMILLS.

One of our group desired a smaller bottled working windmill. I said I'd give that an attempt - but should have said attempts.

Styrene tubing and rods were first used to fashion a structure with double sheaves but that did not work. Changing the upper sheave to small turbines to be blown upon via passages and a straw also did not work. A crank at the top to be rotated by a push rod from below did not work either.

I attempted making a bevel gear assembly. A good set could likely be made using a lathe, milling machine and indexing heads, gear cutters, etc. Lacking those, I used a Dremel with cut-off wheels and grinders. Gears were made from steel bars, styrene, and wood dowels. Oddly, the wooden gears seemed to function best.

Assembling and testing the gears provided a good refresher course - to some I had almost 50 years ago. Gears not only transmit motion, but also forces along the shafts which must be counteracted. Keys in keyways (slots) were used to transmit motions between the gears, shafts, vanes and operating wheel. A stepped key on the driven shaft counteracts forces in one direction and a disk screwed on the rear of the shaft counters forces in the other direction - I hope.

Styrene tubing proved too small ( $\frac{1}{2}$ " dia., max.) and thin for the main structure, so I opted for  $\frac{1}{2}$ " PVC pipe ( $\frac{5}{8}$ " O.D. x  $\frac{7}{16}$ " I.D.). The pipe could be shaped, grooved and painted to resemble stones with shuttered windows and a wood door. Styrene was suited for the octagonal roof, driven shaft, internal supports for the driving gear and wood shaft, keys and the vanes or arms. The latter were enlarged after the first pair proved too flimsy.

Placing the operating wheel beneath the rear base allows one to hold the bottled model facing a youngster and ask them to blow gently - operating the wheel as they do.

In response to Ray's comments about a prior bottled windmill, a figure of Don Quixote was added, carved from styrene. An apt subtitle for this one is "self portrait."

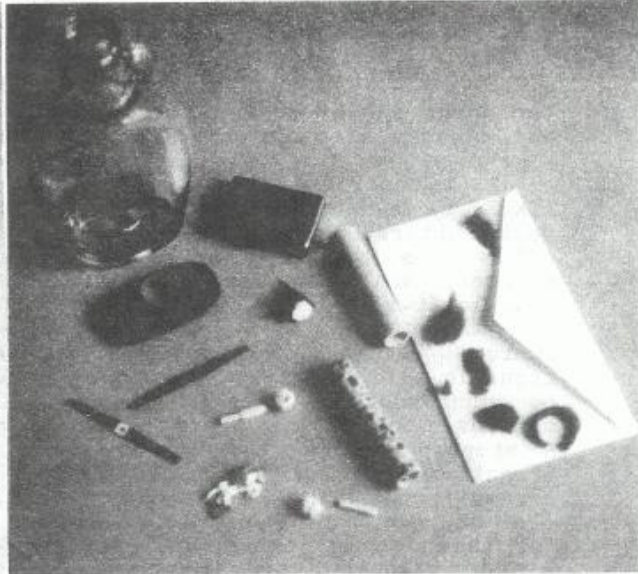
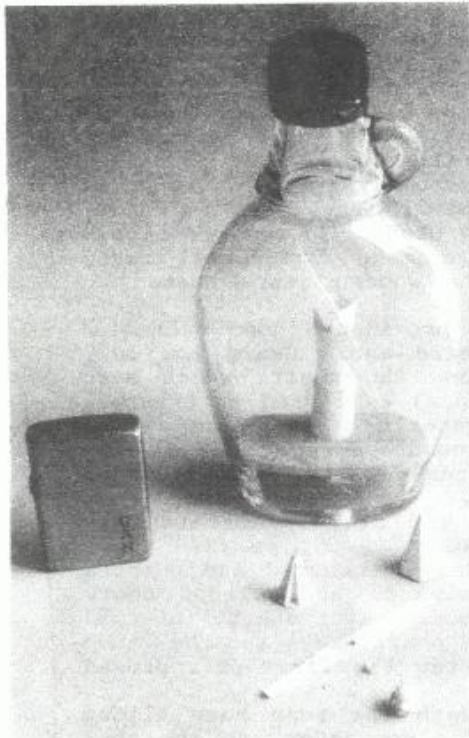
Incidentally, that previous windmill was based on one in Denmark. This one is roughly based on an illustrated excerpt from Cervante's Don Quixote in a 1928 edition of The Book of Knowledge which my wife has. Local libraries only had copies of Cervante's book that were not illustrated and when I typed "windmills" into their new computerized indexing system, the response was: "fiction." The word was also absent in any of their current encyclopedias.

C. Hand



Left- the figure of Don Quixote.

**TILTING AT WINDMILLS.**  
by Charles Hand.

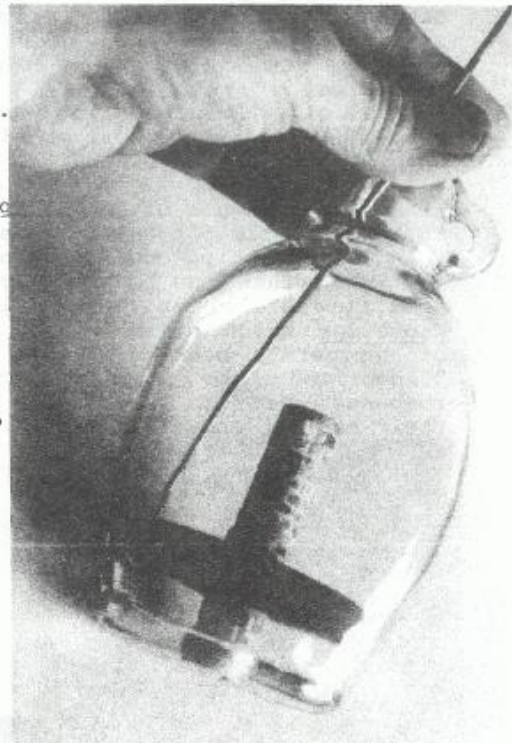


1. 2.

1. A styrene version, using sheaves which did not function well
2. A better PVC pipe structure, but trying sheaves-which still did not work well.
3. Using an L-shaped rod to press the near section of the inner base into place.

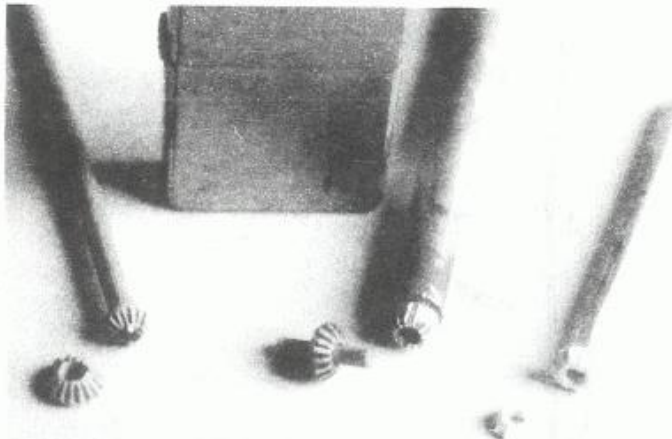
Pieces of green-painted sponge (on envelope) were used to simulate tree and shrubbery, former with a twisted wire trunk.

The inner base was hinged at the top by gluing to green-painted fine sand-paper resembling grass.

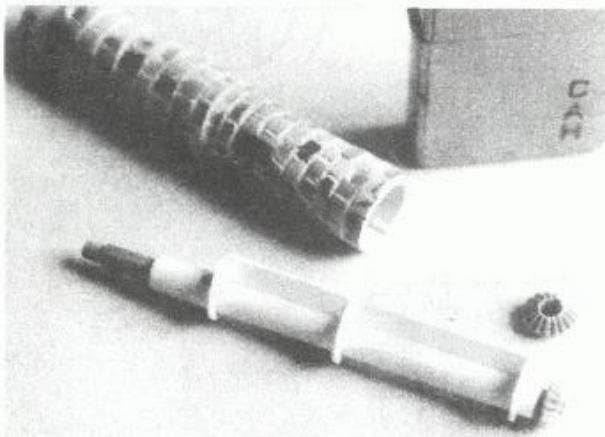




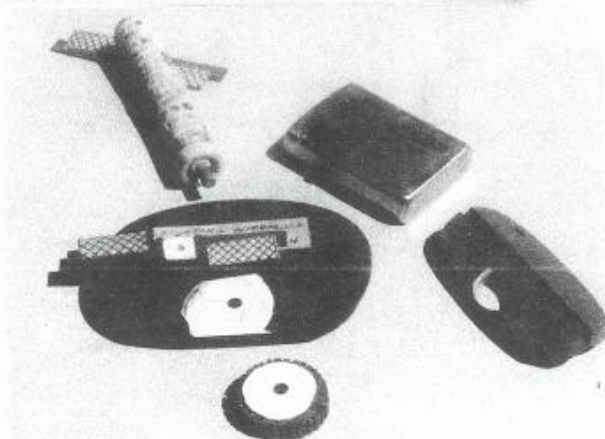
**TILTING AT WINDMILLS.**  
continued.



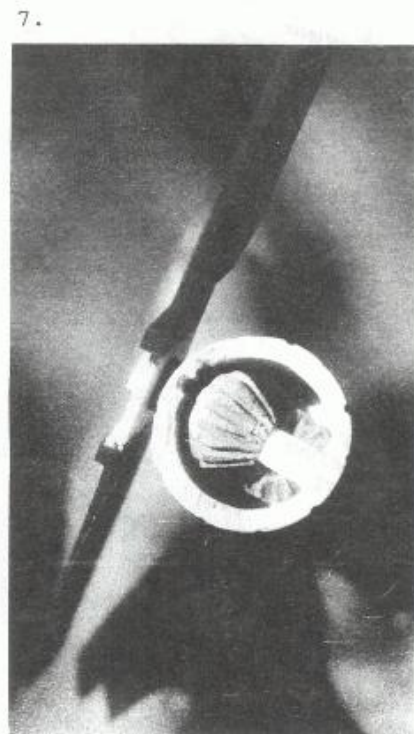
4. Wood, steel and styrene gears were made. the wood gears worked best.  
(5.) The shaft support housing slides inside the structure with a projection in a slot to prevent rotation . And rods cemented in holes in the structure and housing to maintain vertical position.  
(6.) Ready to bottle, showing the undersides of the base and the inner base. The vanes are now sturdier-thicker and wider.



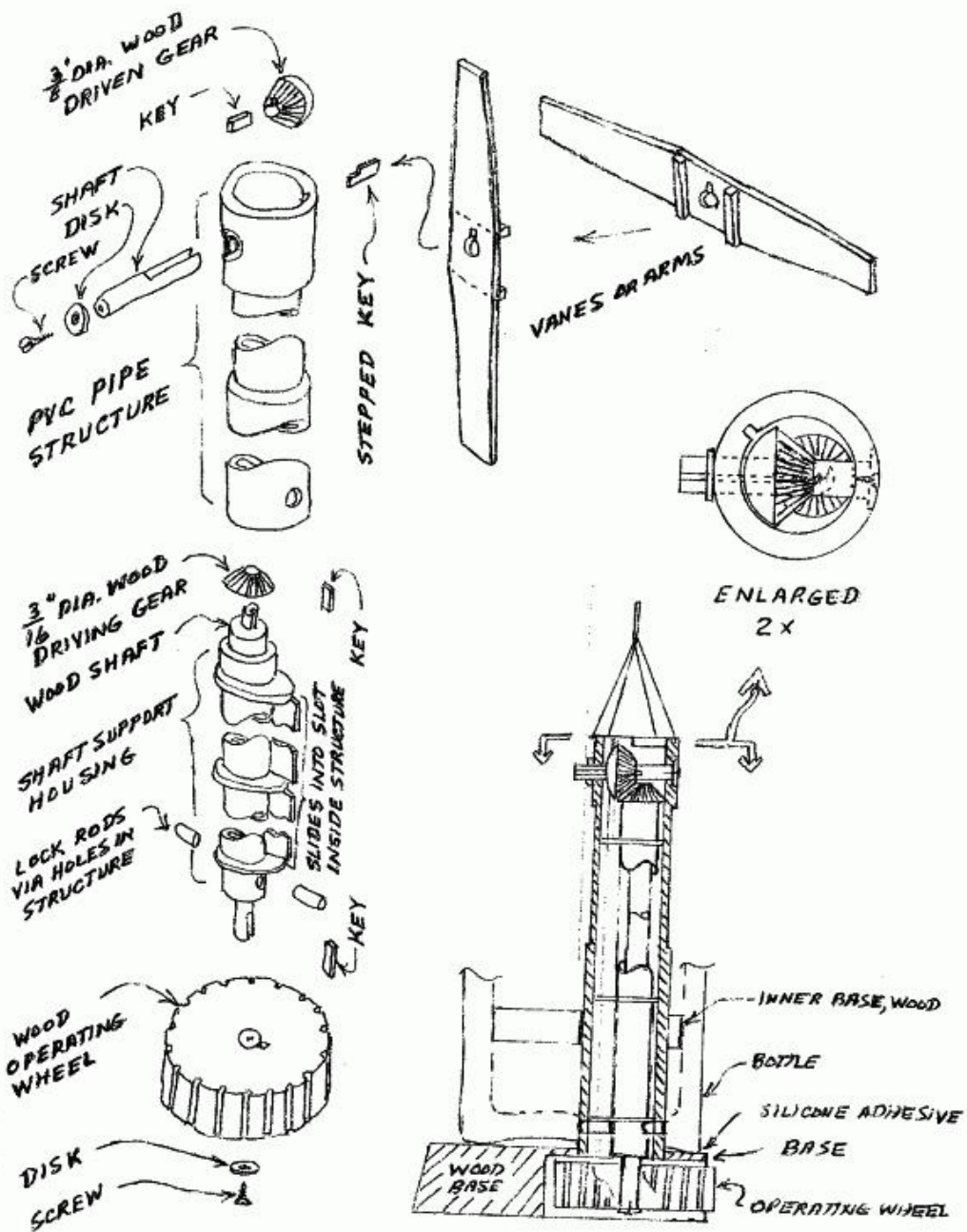
5. (7.) The operating bevel gears and one set of vanes keyed in place.



6.



7.



14.

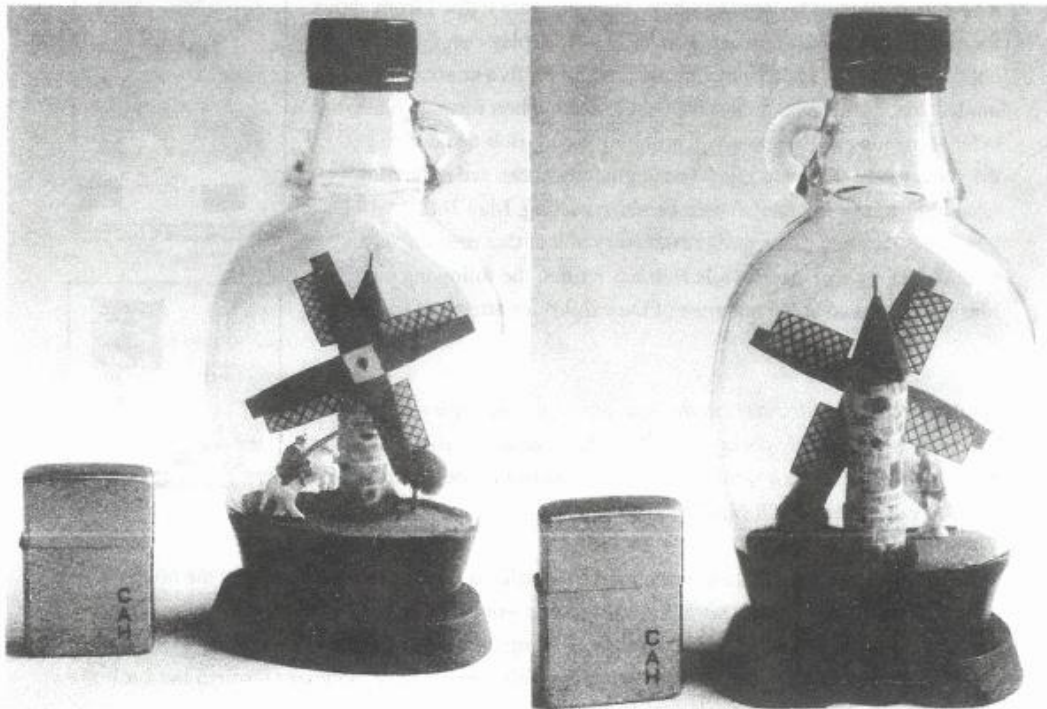
TILTING AT WINDMILLS.  
continued



(8.) above The finished model compared with an original bottle.

(9.) Left below, The completed model.

(10.) Right below, The rear side of the finished model..



15.



## NOTES FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

by

Don Hubbard

I wish to thank **Conrad Forget, Chicopee, MA** for the extra donation to the Association in memory of his late mate Barbara. Conrad had earlier sent me this model in one of Barbara's insulin bottles. This model will appear in our coming **International Show**.



Conrad Forget's Model

The **San Diego International Show** is, of course, the big news from here. Bob Crawford and I have been working overtime pulling all the odds and ends together to make the show on board the Museum's ferryboat, *Berkeley* a success, and a success it will be. At last count we had something over 180 models and additional works are still coming in. The *Berkeley* is a large ferryboat, and there is a below decks area that used to be a dining room. Here is where the show is being assembled. Bob has created shadow boxes along both sides to house the models, usually two to three to a box. The boxes are lighted from above for maximum effect. There are also two large display cases, one holding the thirty Japanese models and the other, five or six larger models that didn't lend themselves to the shadowbox format. While the official opening of the show will still be June 1<sup>st</sup>, Bob decided to get the show ready earlier so that Museum members can see a preview when they attend the annual membership meeting, May 26th. I will be giving a 30 minute illustrated introductory talk at that meeting as a prelude to viewing. Meanwhile Bob has written the following nice blurb to be placed at the entrance of the exhibit for attendees to read.

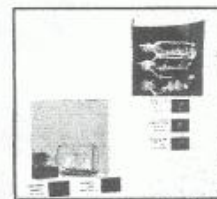


The ferryboat *Berkeley* with two other museum craft alongside.



Bob Frederick's models.

*While our exhibit title refers to the Sailors Craft, what you will see here are models built by people of all walks of life. Doctors, Lawyers and an Indian Chief (actually a retired Lieutenant Colonel in the Indian Army), from 15 countries and 20 U.S. States.*



Jack Hinkley and another builder side by side.

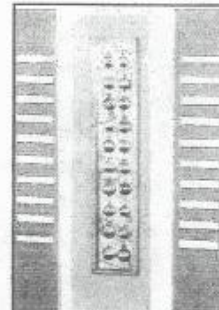
*For many of us the fascination with Ships-in-Bottles is in how they get them into the bottles? But the techniques are only part of the story. The wonderful sense of humor, ingenuity, artistry and craftsmanship these builders use is fascinating and, at times, very entertaining. With one small exception, a Penny in a Bottle, all the models you see have been sent through the neck of*

the bottle. No glass cutting was involved. We hope you enjoy, 'Ships-in-Bottles, the Sailors Craft'

I couldn't have said it better myself.



About 1/4 of the shadow boxes port side



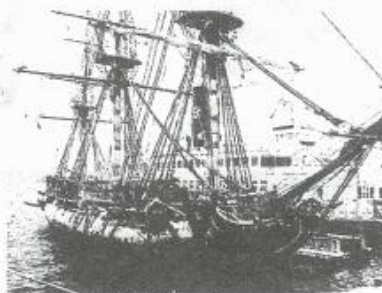
Terry Butler's Watch Case Model.

I asked Bob Crawford how an individual could donate his/her models to the San Diego or any other museum and write off the donation. Sadly, if you donate *any* work of your own art to any charity or museum the only write off you can take is for the cost of materials, i.e. putty, modeling clay, paint, wood, thread, etc. Not much money unless you work in ivory or precious metals.

However, if someone else donates the art it can be written off for its full (appraised) value. So what to do?

One way is to give the works to a trust and have the trust donate them. That way the trust can take the tax write off. I suppose another way would be to give the model(s) to a relative and let them take the write off at full appraised value.

**However, patience may pay off.** I understand that there is a bill before congress which lets artists and craftsmen take full assessed value on donations of their own work. Let's hope!



The Surprise with Berkeley in background.

I have reprinted my book, Ships-In-Bottles: A Step by Step Guide to a Venerable Nautical Craft. It is the same book as before, but the new process I used (Books On Demand) could not duplicate the color cover, so the cover has been redesigned in black and white and printed on buff colored cover stock. Looks very nice and Amazon.com will have some by the middle of May. If you can get on-line and call up Amazon they should have the new cover on display by the first of June.

Happy bottling, Don Hubbard





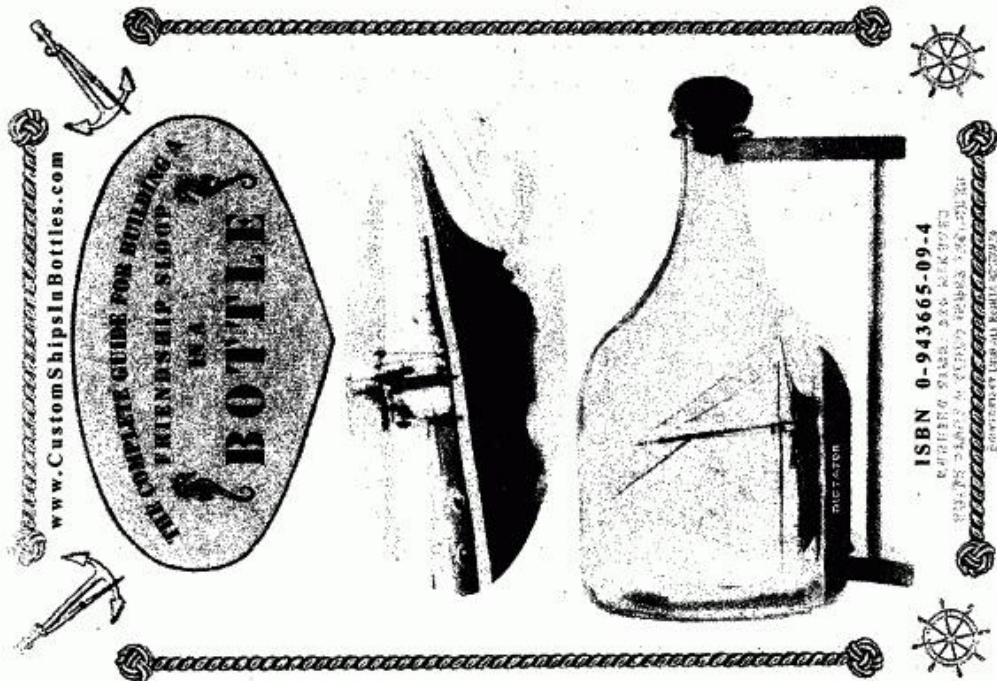
★★★  
 GIL CHARBONNEAU is known by his peers and collectors for the quality of his more than 80 ships in bottles. The National Geographic World, Yankee Magazine, Down East, Colonial Homes, Traditional Homes, Seaways' Ships in Scale, Off Shore, Sailing, The Bottle Shipwright, and The New York Times have all featured his work. His art has been part of the Discovery Channel's "Tales of Wood & Water", "The American Trail", The P.B.S. hit "Heading Rainbow" with Laver Burton, the C.B.C. program "Land & Sea" and most recently the popular C.B.S. "Travels With Harry" with Harry Smith and "Sunday Morning" with Charles Osgood.

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## THE SHIPS-IN-BOTTLES ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Thank you for your query:

The **Ships-In-Bottles Association of America** (S.I.B.A.A.) is one of several affiliated ships-in-bottles associations throughout the world. All share the common goals of promoting the traditional nautical art of building ships-in-bottles through the exchange of ideas, and the hope of advancing the cause of international good will by sharing mutual interests.

While our title indicates that we are an American organization, we have members as far afield as New Zealand, Australia, India, Japan, many European countries, as well as throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Our Journal, **THE BOTTLE SHIPWRIGHT**, is published quarterly and introduces ideas of ship-bottling submitted by our diverse and talented membership. The Journal also contains news of our bi-annual conferences in various parts of the country, competitions and exhibits, articles about bottling ships, photos of member's works, modeling plans and other material related to the art. As a result of the Association many members correspond with one another throughout the world and many new and close friendships have been formed.

We would like to invite you to join us. Current dues are \$ 25.00 in U.S. currency, and checks should be made out to S.I.B.A.A. Please send to:

**Don Hubbard, Membership Chairman**  
P.O. Box 180550,  
Coronado, CA 92178-0550

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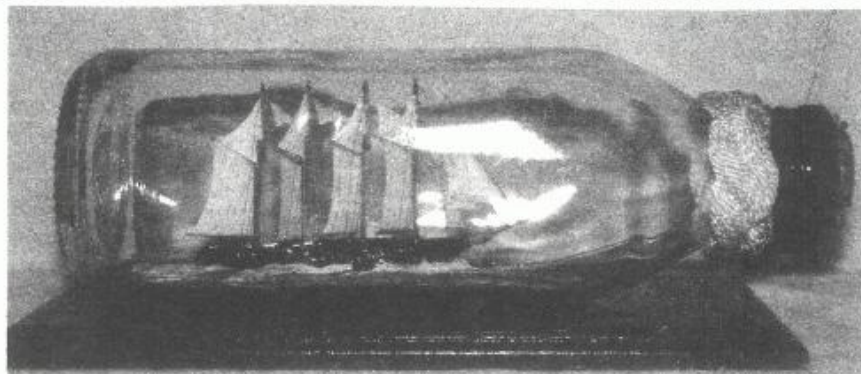


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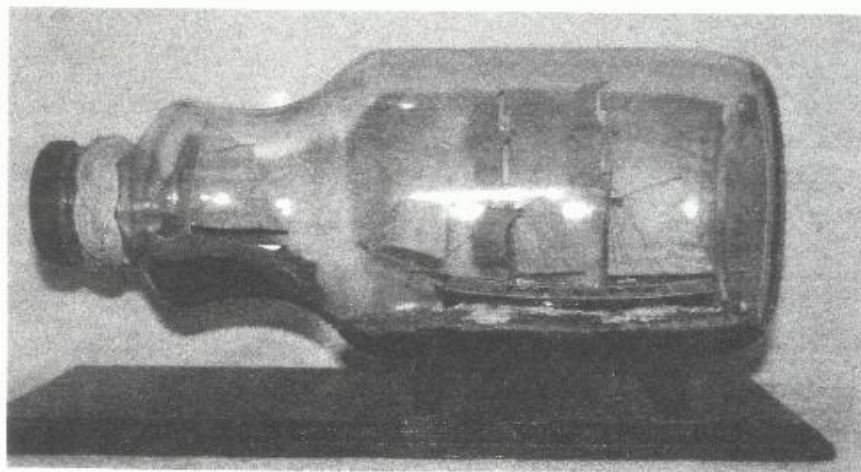
Clifford Alleman (clifford\_alleman@byu.edu)  
Greg Alvey (gpalvey@bellsouth.net)  
Jack Arnold (jacoot@krc.com)  
Joe Barr (JoeBarr@boatnerd.com)  
Alan Barraclough (cudal949@myshorelink.com) (http://fundinet/fpweb/2-hist.htm)  
Andy Bloom (abloom@comcast.net)  
Bernd Braatz (cordula.braatz@tu-berlin.de)  
Bernd Braatz (postbox@resy/vws.tu-berlin.de)  
Saul Bobroff (sbobroff@juno.com)  
Terry Butler (Ashiplady@bridgenettn.com)  
Gil Charboneau (gilships@lincoln.midcoast.com)  
David Conrad (wicketbrick@aol.com)  
Rod Deady (deady30758@aol.com)  
David Dolch (dolch@westlake.k12.oh.us)  
Frank DuMey (olcacker@theriver.com)  
Miles G.Dunscombe (dunscombem@aol.com)  
Bryan R.Emond (emonds@earthlink.net)  
Robert Evans (cwoboats@aol.com)  
Edgar Fisher (efisher3@bellsouth.net)  
Chris Fowler (patfowler@mediaone.net)  
John Fox III (jfox3@win.bright.net)  
Brian Frantz (bfrantz@globaltelecom.com)  
David J. Gendall (klgendall@attbl.com)  
John Green (greengo@bellsouth.net)  
Ray Handwerker (bt1shprt@innet.com)  
Don Hubbard (hubbarddon@aol.com)  
Bob De Jongste (bobdejongste@wxs.nl)  
Dutch SIB (www.shipsinbottles.nl)  
Philip Keyes (prk2406@aol.com)  
Patricia Labistour (patricai@seascape.demon.co.uk)  
Robert Little (stormyl2gte.net)  
Marty Maciejewski (martymac@msn.com)  
Adam Mello (adamelo@calicom.net)  
Alan Moltz (Amoltz@cox.net)  
Frederico Miethe (freddmie@aol.com)  
Amy Moseley (moseleae@email.uc.edu)  
Chris Nair (grknair@mantrafreenet.com)  
Tim Norman (twnorman@rocketmail.com)  
Robert A. O'neil (roneil@cogeco.ca)  
Michael Ott (wott@tampabay.rr.com)  
Bob Paroz (gypsoandco@aol.com)  
Artem Popov (popov@pol.ru)  
Ralph Preston Propaganda Sheets, (www.hit-the-bottle.com)  
Ralph Preston (hitthebottle@juno.com)  
Alan Rogers (artful@frome99.fsnet.co.uk)  
Hector Sepulveda (andres@sepulveda.org)  
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David Smith (dsresrch@fundy.net)  
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Nobuyasu Yamazaki (n.yamazaki@osaki.co.jp)

SIB History Page.





Member Ross Ewings of Harrington NSW Australia sent in these photos, Above The Fore and Aft Schooner "Sea King"



Above The ten gun Privateer Brig "Dapper Tom" and the sloop "laughing Gull " in the neck of the bottle. Below is a model of the Barque "Pojaris" .Ross has made 188 SIB's in 35 years.

